

Application/Control No.: 10/030,268
Art Unit: 1614

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LISITNG AND STATUS OF ALL CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

16. (currently amended) A composite material comprising: (a) one or more poorly water-soluble phosphate salts of calcium, fluoride salts of calcium, or fluorophosphate salts of calcium, which salts may also contain hydroxyl and/or carbonate groups, the calcium salt or salts being in the form of crystalline, rodlet-like primary nanoparticles having a mean particle diameter of 10 to 300 nm; and (b) protein components selected from the group consisting of collagen, gelatine, keratin, wheat protein, rice protein, soya protein, almond protein, oat protein, pea protein, potato protein, yeast protein and hydrolyzates and hydrolyzate derivatives thereof ~~one or more proteins, protein hydrolyzates, or protein hydrolyzate derivatives~~ wherein the composite is a microscopically heterogeneous aggregate of the nanoparticles associated onto the skeleton of the protein component.
17. (previously presented) The composite material of claim 16 wherein the rodlet-like primary particles have a thickness of 2 to 50 nm and a length of 10 to 150 nm.
18. (canceled)
19. (canceled)
20. (previously presented) The composite material of claim 16, wherein the calcium salts are encapsulated with one or more surface modifiers.
21. (previously presented) The composite material of claim 16, wherein the calcium salts comprise one or more hydroxylapatite or fluorapatite salts.
22. (cancelled)

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23.-27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) A toothpaste comprising the composite material of claim 16.

29. (cancelled)

30. (cancelled)

31. (previously presented) The composite material of claim 16, wherein b) comprises 0.1% to 60% by weight of the composite material.

32. (previously presented) The composite material of claim 31, wherein b) comprises 0.5% to 10% by weight of the composite material.

33. (new) A composite material comprising: (a) one or more poorly water-soluble phosphate salts of calcium, fluoride salts of calcium, or fluorophosphate salts of calcium, which salts may also contain hydroxyl and/or carbonate groups, the calcium salt or salts being in the form of crystalline, rodlet-like primary nanoparticles having a mean particle diameter of 10 to 300 nm; and (b) a protein component wherein the protein component is gelatin and/or a hydrolyzate thereof and wherein the composite is a microscopically heterogeneous aggregate of the nanoparticles associated onto the skeleton of the protein component.

34. (new) The composite material of claim 33 wherein the calcium salts are encapsulated with one or more surface modifiers.

35. (new) The composite material of claim 33 wherein the calcium salts comprise one or more hydroxylapatite or fluorapatite salts.

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36. (new) The composite material of claim 33 wherein the rodlet-like primary particles have a thickness of 2 to 50 nm and a length of 10 to 150 nm.

37. (new) A toothpaste comprising the composite material of claim 33.